

Message Text

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62

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /092 W
----- 015209

R 181455Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2209

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS GR

SUBJ: PRESS FREEDOM

1. ONLY ATHENS NEWS REPORTED RESOLUTION OF ATHENS JOURNALISTS UNION APPEALING TO GOG TO RESTORE PRESS FREEDOM IN GREECE. ACCORDING TO NEWS ACCOUNT RESOLUTION NOTED PRINCIPLES OF FREE PRESS HAD BEEN "SHAKEN" IN GREECE DURING PAST SEVEN YEARS AND OBJECTED TO SIX-MONTH BAN ON PUBLICATION OF VRADYNI (ATHENS 0377).

2. RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED DURING SPECIAL SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNION AND REPORTEDLY WILL BE SENT TO PRESIDENT GHIZIKIS AND TO INTERNATIONAL PRESS INSTITUTE IN SWITZERLAND.

3. COMMENT: AS REPORTED EARLIER JUNTA LEADERSHIP IN SPECIAL BRIEFINGS TO NEWSPAER PUBLISHERS AND EDITORS HAS MADE EMPHATICALLY CLEAR ITS PRESS POLICY OF AVOIDING CRITICAL REFERENCES OR COMMENTARY RE GOG ACTIVITY PRESENT AND PAST (PAPADOPOULOS REGIME). WHILE SELF-CENSORSHIP IS IN EFFECT, PRESS HAS BEEN INTIMIDATED TO POINT WHERE ALL NEWSPAPERS CARRY NEARLY IDENTICAL COVERAGE OF DOMESTIC EVENTS WHICH OFTEN ORIGINATES FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES. UNION CAN HARBOR NO HOPE THAT ITS RESOLUTION

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WILL BE RECEIVED SYMPATHETICALLY. TASCA

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Message Attributes

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